

Executive Registry

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20 MAR 1959

Honorable Tom Murray, Chairman
Committee on Post Office and Civil Service
House of Representatives
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Murray:

I am informed that H. R. 1870, a bill to amend the Act of August 26, 1950 relating to the suspension of employment of civilian personnel of the United States in the interest of national security, is presently before your Committee.

While I am fully sympathetic to the aims of this bill, I am concerned that if enacted in its present form it would limit the authority previously granted to me by the Congress in section 102(c) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended (Public Law 80-253). This section provides that the Director of Central Intelligence may, in his discretion, terminate the employment of any officer or employee of the Agency whenever he shall deem such termination necessary or advisable in the interests of the United States. Experience has demonstrated that such termination authority is absolutely necessary to meet the specific requirements of the Central Intelligence Agency. I, therefore, believe provision should be made in H. R. 1870 to preserve the authority granted me by the National Security Act and suggest that language should be added to section 2 of the proposed bill, which already makes exception for the Atomic Energy Commission, so that the section would read as follows:

Section 2. Nothing contained in this Act shall impair the powers vested in (a) the Atomic Energy Commission by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 or the requirements of section 161 of such Act that adequate provision be made for administrative termination to dismiss any employee

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of such Commission, or (b) the Director of Central Intelligence by section 102(c) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended.

If you would like more detailed discussion of this matter, I would be pleased to meet with you at your convenience, or members of the Committee staff may contact my Legislative Counsel,

The Bureau of the Budget has no objection to the submission of this letter.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

OGC/LC:GLC:cmj (20 Mar 59)

OGC:LRN:job (20 Mar 59)

cc: Bureau of the Budget (4)

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Director of Personnel

Director of Security

Comptroller

Legislative Counsel

General Counsel